

To the Commission,

Having reviewed the interim report, I am concerned that the needs of industry—particularly the manufacturing sector—are not adequately addressed under Pillars 4 and 5.

Manufacturers require enhanced technical capabilities to remain competitive. These capabilities often rely on advanced, proprietary technologies that are typically not available or taught within traditional training institutions. As an OEM actively providing training for our technology, we see firsthand the gap between institutional training and real-world industry requirements.

I encourage the Commission to consider how employers themselves—through in-house expertise or by engaging third-party specialists—can play a more direct role in delivering relevant skills training. Relying solely on RTOs and formal accreditation pathways may limit both the speed and the scope of uptake, particularly in fast-evolving technological environments.

In this context, I recommend that the inquiry explore the inclusion of **vendor micro-credentials** as a viable and practical training pathway. These credentials, offered directly by technology providers such as ourselves, are already being used effectively in the field to drive productivity and upskill the workforce in a targeted, responsive manner.

This is not a theoretical suggestion; our company actively delivers such training programs, and we've seen measurable impact on workforce capability and performance.

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